

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Amend the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 16 as follows:

FIG. 1 is a front view of an inhaler aid with a reed for a minute powdery curative medicine of the present invention; is a right side view of the inhaler aid with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine of the present invention; FIG. 3 is a left side view of the inhaler aid with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine of the present invention; FIG. 4 is a plan view of the inhaler aid with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine of the present invention; FIG. 5 is a bottom plan view of the inhaler aid with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine of the present invention; FIG. 6 is a sectional view of the inhaler aid with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine of the present invention; FIG. 7 is a right side view of the reed used in the inhaler aid with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine of the present invention; FIG. 8 is a sectional view of the reed used in the inhaler aid with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine of the present invention; FIG. 9 is a sectional view showing a mechanism of the inhaler aid with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine of the present invention; FIG. 10 is a front view when the inhaler aid with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine of the present invention is used with a ~~Flutide Discus~~ FLUTIDE DISCUS (registered trademark); FIG. 11 is a partial sectional view when the inhaler aid with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine of the present invention is used with a ~~Flutide Discus~~ FLUTIDE DISCUS (registered trademark); FIG. 12 is a front view

when the inhaler aid with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine of the present invention is used with a ~~Pulmicort Turbuhaler~~ PULMICORT TURBUHALER (registered trademark); FIG. 13 is a partial sectional view when the inhaler aid with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine of the present invention is used with the ~~Pulmicort Turbuhaler~~ PULMICORT TURBUHALER (registered trademark); FIG. 14 is a front view when the inhaler aid with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine of the present invention is used with a ~~Diskhaler~~ DISKHALER (registered trademark); and FIG. 15 is a partial sectional view when the inhaler aid with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine of the present invention is used with the ~~Diskhaler~~ DISKHALER (registered trademark).

Amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 5 as follows:

An inhaler aid with a reed for a minute powdery curative medicine of the present invention will hereinafter be described in detail in reference to the accompanying drawings. FIG. 1 to FIG. 6 are views showing the inhaler aid with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine ~~[[Qf]]~~ of the present invention, FIG. 7 and FIG. 8 are views showing the reed used in the inhaler aid with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine of the present invention, FIG. 9 is a view showing a mechanism of the inhaler aid with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine of the present invention, and FIG. 10 to FIG. 15 are views showing used states of the inhaler aid with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine of the present invention which is attached to conventional inhalers for the minute powdery curative medicine.

Amend the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 16 as follows:

FIG. 10 and FIG. 11 are views showing the inhaler aid with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine of the present invention which is used by being attached to a ~~Flutide Discus~~ FLUTIDE DISCUS (registered trademark), a conventionally used inhaler for the minute powdery curative medicine manufactured by GlaxoSmithKline Corporation.

Amend the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 22 as follows:

As shown in FIG. 10, in order to use the inhaler aid 1 with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine of the present invention by attaching it to a ~~Flutide Discus~~ FLUTIDE DISCUS (registered trademark) 10 which is the conventionally used inhaler for the minute powdery curative medicine, the following attachment method is implemented wherein a mouthpiece 11 of the ~~Flutide Discus~~ FLUTIDE DISCUS (registered trademark) 10 is inserted into and joined to the junction aperture 3k of the junction, which comprises the front joint piece 3c, the left end 3d, the right end 3e and the rear joint piece 3g, of the inhaler aid 1 with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine.

Amend the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 12 as follows:

As shown in FIG. 11, the ~~Flutide Discus~~ FLUTIDE DISCUS (registered trademark) 10 to which the inhaler aid 1 with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine is attached is used in the following method; the patient first holds the engagement portion 2 in the mouth 8,

and bites and fixes the projections 2a and 2e of the engagement portion 2 with teeth, and then breathes in the air 9.

Amend the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 19 as follows:

At this moment, the inhaler aid 1 with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine is attached only for the purpose of aiding a portion of the mouthpiece 11 without interfering with the mechanism inherent to the ~~Flutide-Discus~~ FLUTIDE DISCUS (registered trademark) 10, so that it is attached without blocking an air hole and the like necessary to inhale the curative medicine.

Amend the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 26 as follows:

Therefore, if the patient holds the engagement portion 2 in the mouth 8 and breathes in the air 9, the air 9a is sucked from the air hole of the ~~Flutide-Discus~~ FLUTIDE DISCUS (registered trademark) 10. The air 9a whirls up a curative medicine 10c from a medicine chamber mounted in a main unit 10b and is released together with the curative medicine 10c from the mouthpiece 11 into the inhalation path 5 of the inhaler aid 1 with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine, and then inhaled into the oral cavity through the inhalation path 5.

Amend the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 9 as follows:

[[A]] At the same time, the patient breathes in the air 9 to cause the air 6 also to be sucked into the reed 4 inserted in the right side of the inhaler aid 1 with the reed for the minute

powdery curative medicine, and thus the valve 4d is vibrated, and the air 6b is released into the inhalation path 5 of the inhaler aid 1 with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine, whereby the reed 4 produces the beep 7. This allows the patient to know that the curative medicine 10c has been correctly inhaled.

Amend the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 18 as follows:

FIG. 12 and FIG. 13 are views showing the inhaler aid with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine of the present invention which is used by being attached to a ~~Pulmicort-Turbuhaler~~ PULMICORT TURBUHALER (registered trademark), a conventionally used inhaler for the minute powdery curative medicine manufactured by AstraZeneca Corporation.

Amend the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 24 as follows:

The inhaler aid 1 with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine of the present invention is attached to a ~~Pulmicort-Turbuhaler~~ PULMICORT TURBUHALER (registered trademark) 12 which is the conventionally used inhaler for the minute powdery curative medicine, in the following attachment method. As shown in FIG. 12, a mouthpiece 12a provided at an upper portion of the ~~Pulmicort-Turbuhaler~~ PULMICORT TURBUHALER (registered trademark) 12 is inserted into and joined to the junction aperture 3k of the inhaler aid 1 with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine.

Amend the paragraph beginning on page 13, line 7 as follows:

As shown in FIG. 12, air intake grooves 13c for taking in the air for the ~~Pulmicort Turbuhaler~~ PULMICORT TURBUHALER (registered trademark) 12 are provided in a longitudinally long shape on an upper outer peripheral surface of a tube 13a of a main unit 13, and an air hole 13e is further provided in a fitting portion 13f attached to a lower portion of the tube 13a. Therefore, even when the inhaler aid 1 with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine is attached to the mouthpiece 12a, the inhaler aid 1 with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine does not block the mechanism for air intake or the like that the ~~Pulmicort Turbuhaler~~ PULMICORT TURBUHALER (registered trademark) 12 has.

Amend the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 1 as follows:

The ~~Pulmicort Turbuhaler~~ PULMICORT TURBUHALER (registered trademark) to which the inhaler aid 1 with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine is attached is used in the following manner. First, the patient holds the engagement portion 2 in the mouth 8, and bites and fixes the projections 2a and 2e with teeth, and then breathes in the air 9.

Amend the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 8 as follows:

Then, in the ~~Pulmicort Turbuhaler~~ PULMICORT TURBUHALER (registered trademark) 12, the airs 9a, 9a are taken into the main unit 13 from the air intake grooves 13c and the air hole 13e that are formed in the main unit 13, and an air 9b taken in from the air hole 13e whirls up a curative medicine 12b in an inhalation medicine tube 13b, and then the curative medicine 12b is

released together with an air 9c from the mouthpiece 12a into the inhalation path 5, whereby the curative medicine 12b is inhaled together with the air into the oral cavity.

Amend the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 26 as follows:

FIG. 14 and FIG. 15 are views showing the inhaler aid with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine of the present invention which is used by being attached to a ~~Diskhaler~~ DISKHALER (registered trademark) 14, a conventionally used inhaler for the minute powdery curative medicine manufactured by GlaxoSmithKline Corporation.

Amend the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 5 as follows:

As shown in FIG. 14, the inhaler aid 1 with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine of the present invention is attached to the ~~Diskhaler~~ DISKHALER (registered trademark) 14 in the following method. A mouthpiece 15 of the ~~Diskhaler~~ DISKHALER (registered trademark) 14 is inserted into the junction aperture 3k of the inhaler aid 1 with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine.

Amend the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 12 as follows:

As shown in FIG. 15, a diameter of the inner peripheral surface 3h inside the tube 3b of the inhaler aid 1 with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine of the present invention corresponds to a diameter of upper ends of left and right small holes 15a and 15b that are provided on left and right sides of the mouthpiece 15, so that a lower end of the inner peripheral

surface 3h closely contacts and is fixed to the upper ends of the left and right small holes 15a and 15b of the mouthpiece 15. Therefore, the inhaler aid 1 with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine can aid in the inhalation operation without completely covering the entire mouthpiece 15 and without interfering with the mechanism inherent to the ~~Diskhaler~~ DISKHALER (registered trademark) 14.

Amend the paragraph beginning on page 16, line 15 as follows:

The ~~Diskhaler~~ DISKHALER (registered trademark) 14 to which the inhaler aid 1 with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine is attached is used in the following method. First, the engagement portion 2 of the inhaler aid 1 with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine attached to the mouthpiece 15 is held in the mouth 8, and the left and right projections 2a and 2e are bitten and fixed with teeth, and then the air 9 is breathed in.

Amend the paragraph beginning on page 16, line 23 as follows:

When the air 9 is sucked in, the air 9a is taken into a ~~Rotadisk~~ ROTADISK 16 from a surface hole 16a pierced by a needle 14c on a surface of the ~~Rotadisk~~ ROTADISK 16 that is attached to a main unit 14a of the ~~Diskhaler~~ DISKHALER (registered trademark) 14. Also, the air 9a is taken in from the left and right small holes 15a and 15b formed in the mouthpiece 15.

Amend the paragraph beginning on page 17, line 2 as follows:

The air 9a taken into the ~~Rotadisk~~ ROTADISK 16 from the surface hole 16a of the ~~Rotadisk~~ ROTADISK 16 whirls up a curative medicine 16b in the ~~Rotadisk~~ ROTADISK 16, and is released from the main unit 14a into the mouthpiece 15, and then the curative medicine 16b is inhaled, together with the air 9a taken into the mouthpiece 15 from the left and right small holes 15a and 15b, into the oral cavity through the inhalation path 5 of the inhaler aid 1 with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine.

Amend the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 13 as follows:

Thirdly, as the inhaler aid with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine of the present invention is made of silicon rubber, it can be washed as needed to keep clean, and once one masters the use of the inhaler aid for the minute powdery curative medicine, the engagement portion can be ~~[[cur]]~~ cut away, allowing the inhaler aid to be used for a long time.

Amend the abstract of the specification as follows:

~~An object of the~~ The present invention provides ~~is to provide~~ an inhaler aid which maximizes utility of an inhaler for the minute powdery curative medicine, and which is used by being attached to the inhaler so that people including a user can objectively ascertain in each case whether an inhalation operation has been correctly performed. In the present invention, the inhaler aid with the reed for the minute powdery curative medicine has a configuration characterized in that the reed is fitted into a right side of a main unit made of silicon rubber, and the inhaler aid is attached to a mouthpiece portion of a conventionally used inhaler for the minute

Application No. 10/578,624
Art Unit: 3771

Amendment
Attorney Docket No. 042269

powdery curative medicine such that the aid equipped with the reed is placed between the inhaler for the minute powdery curative medicine and a mouth of a patient, and when an intake operation has been correctly performed ~~without fail~~, a sound is produced.